

REMARKS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Official Action dated 24 September 2004. Responsive to the rejections made in the Official Action, Claims 1, 7 and 9 have been amended to clarify the combination of elements which form the invention of the subject Patent Application. Additionally, Claims 2, 3, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, and 13 have been amended to correct language errors therein and Claims 4 and 6 have been cancelled by this Amendment.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1 – 3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102, as being anticipated by Arnett, U.S. Patent No. 5,664,955. However, the Examiner kindly indicated that Claims 4 and 6 – 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In reviewing the Official Action, the undersigned attorney discovered that any reference to Claim 13 had been omitted in the Official Action and the undersigned attorney contacted the Examiner on this matter. The Examiner concurred that he had omitted any reference to Claim 13, but noted that as it was dependent upon an objected to claim, it too would be an objected to claim.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 4 therein, thereby effectively rewriting Claim 4 in independent form, including all of

the limitations of the base claim, Claim 1, and any intervening claims, which there were none. Therefore, Claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon should now be allowable. Additionally, Claims 7 and 9 were each amended to incorporate the subject matter of original Claim 1 therein, thereby rewriting those claims in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim, Claim 1, and any intervening claims, which there were none. Therefore, Claims 7 and 9, and the claims dependent thereon should also be allowable.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
FOR ROSENBERG, KLEIN & LEE



David I. Klein
Registration #33,253

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Rosenberg, Klein & Lee
Suite 101
3458 Ellicott Center Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(410) 465-6678

Customer No.
04586